

RR 2, Box 2890  
Manistique, MI 49854  
January 12, 2001

6699 '01 JAN 24 P1:48

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20785

Dear Sirs,

RE: Docket No. 98P-0151/CP1  
Prohibit the Slaughter of Downed Animals

I am writing you to urgently request that the U.S. FDA grant the petition brought forward by Farm Sanctuary to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Please consider the following points:

1. Animals who are too sick or injured to even stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. These animals are in great distress and should be handled humanely to alleviate or end the suffering.
2. In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE, or "Mad Cow Disease," a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness, CJD.
3. It is practically impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains. These are very inhumane processes that cause injuries and intense suffering. Farm animals deserve to be treated humanely.
4. Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.
5. Industry experts have estimated that ninety percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Importantly, removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

*Bonnie Taylor*  
(Mrs.) Bonnie Taylor

C3594

98P-0151

Mrs. Bonnie Taylor  
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